

Washington - Congresswoman Linda T. Sánchez today welcomed the inclusion of funding for the C-17 aircraft, which was included by Congressional appropriators in the Department of Defense funding legislation for the coming year. The House of Representatives is scheduled to vote today on the bill (H.R. 5361), which includes \$4.4 billion for the production of the Boeing C-17 cargo plane, also known as the Globemaster III.

“The C-17 is a crucial element of our country’s military preparedness,” said Congresswoman Sánchez. “I am grateful that our defense funding bill reflects a commitment to building a strong military that can adequately respond to threats and crises around the world.”

Congresswoman Sánchez also called on the Department of Defense (DOD) to reform the process used by the Department to measure its force structure capacity and needs. She cited the recent report by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) that found “questions about the adequacy” of the DOD review process, which was used to explain the DOD’s attempt to discontinue the C-17 program.

“The Defense Department used a secretive and glaringly inadequate review process to justify its desire to shutter the C-17 program,” added Congresswoman Sánchez. “It’s disappointing that Secretary Rumsfeld has a process in place that doesn’t recognize the needs of our armed forces.”